

INTELLFAX 14

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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE

SUBJECT Railroad Reorganization

DIST. *7* January 1948

ORIGIN

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

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1. The Minister of Railroads, Stefan Tonchev, is studying a project whereby the State Railroads will become an independent and self-supporting organization instead of being merely a dependency of the Ministry of Communications.
2. Hitherto the budget of the Railroads formed part of the general budget of the Ministry of Communications, but if the project is accepted, the Railroads will have their own budget as the Posts and Telegraphs have now.
3. Soviet railroad specialists (engineers, mechanics and other administrative experts) have arrived in Bulgaria and are closely cooperating with the Bulgarian rail officials. Their recommendations are being followed with appreciably good results to date.
4. Among the recommendations are the construction of repair shops (for cars) at Sofia, Plovdiv and Gorna Orehovitsa, and suggestions for the eventual electrification of certain lines.
5. The line between Pernik and Voluyak is to be open to regular traffic by 1 January 1948. It was to be completed between 5 and 10 November 1947.
6. The line linking Lovech and Troyan has been completed and will soon be opened to traffic while the line between Karlovo and Klisura will shortly be ready.
7. The cost of new building for 1948 is estimated at 2,650,000,000 levas, without including the free labor, which is valued at 400 million levas.

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